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nection with the Rhenish Museum at Coblenz. It has a few good pictures, three admirable and beautifully executed little maps, and gives an excellent account of the wearing of the Rhine gorge—Bingen to Bonn—by the river, all this in popular language and in a pleasing style. The valley has been in about the same place since Tertiary time. The relation of the older terraces to the present river flood plains is clearly described, as well as the upfolding of the Schiefergebirge by which the erosion of the gorge was caused. The relation of the various terraces to the glacial epoch and its stages is made out and a word given to the loess. Surely thoughtful visitors to the Rhine country will appreciate this excellent volume.

MARK JEFFERSON.

#### POLAR

**National Antarctic Expedition, 1901-1904.** Physical Observations, with discussions by various authors. 192 pp. Map, ills., index. Royal Soc., London, 1908. 12 x 9½.

While elaborate and expensive final reports upon an important expedition are essential to the preservation of its full data, the time required for their preparation and publication is such that the more important general facts and conclusions have long since found their way to the scientific public. The lack of interest which they offer on this account is further increased by the "dry" aspect of pages of tables to each paragraph of summary.

Without reflecting in any way upon the value of this report, it offers little that is new, with the exception of a number of plates showing auroras and new views about the winter quarters of the expedition. The report is in five sections—namely, tidal observations in the Antarctic regions, 1902-1903; pendulum observations; earthquakes and other earth movements recorded in the Antarctic region, 1902-1903; Antarctic observations of aurora, 1902-1903, and Antarctic magnetic observations, 1902-1904. The writers of these reports include authorities of the first rank—namely, the late Sir George Darwin, Dr. C. Chree, Mr. L. C. Bernacchi, and the late Dr. John Milne. The value of gravity derived from pendulum observations at the winter quarters on McMurdo Sound is 982.985 (theoretical sea-level value, 982.963), as against 979.970 (theoretical sea-level value, 979.954) obtained at Melbourne, Australia. The interesting results of seismograph observations have already been published by Milne in other papers.

W. H. HOBBS.

**National Antarctic Expedition, 1901-1904.** Meteorology. Part 2: Comprising daily synchronous charts, 1st October, 1901, to 31st March, 1904. Prepared in the Meteorol. Office, under the superintendence of M. W. Campbell Hepworth. 26 pp. of text. Royal Soc., London, 1913. 12 x 9½.

The publication of the physical results of the British National Antarctic Expedition of 1901-1904, for which the Royal Society undertook the responsibility, is completed in the present volume on Meteorology, Part II (Part I was issued in 1908). The results here included were obtained during the expeditions of the *Discovery*, *Gauss*, *Scotia*, and *Antarctic*, as well as on other vessels in the southern oceans, and at observatories in the southern portions of the southern continents. We have here, for the first time, a series of daily synoptic weather maps for the southern hemisphere, south of latitude 30° S. The period covered is Oct. 1, 1901–March 31, 1904. The charts are for Greenwich mean noon; they are printed four to a page, show isobars for each tenth of an inch, winds and temperatures, and number over 1,000 in all. Monthly summary charts are also included. The total number of observations charted was 44,893. The text, by Captain Hepworth, discusses certain conclusions as to the origin and direction of travel of the cyclones of the southern oceans, and calls attention to certain salient features shown on the charts. This body of material is obviously of immense importance, incomplete as the charts inevitably are, for we now have the opportunity to follow out, day by day, the movements of the far southern cyclones and anticyclones.

No one can turn over the pages of this important volume without being impressed by the enormous labor involved in its preparation, and without a feeling of gratitude to all the faithful observers who, often in peril and usually

in discomfort, made the series of records which are here collected and summarized so that all of us may make use of them, quietly, conveniently and in safety, in the study, the library, or the classroom. R. DEC. WARD.

**Ein arktischer Robinson.** Von Kapitän Mikkelsen. 2. Auflage. x and 384 pp. Maps, ill., index. F. A. Brockhaus, Leipzig, 1914. Mk. 10. 9 x 6½.

The English edition of this noteworthy book was reviewed at length in the *Bulletin* (November, 1913, p. 862). The Danish edition is also in the library.

**Hunting in the Arctic and Alaska.** By E. Marshall Scull. 304 pp. Maps, ill., index. John C. Winston Co., Philadelphia, 1914. \$2.50. 9 x 6.

This book is the usual narrative of animals slaughtered or left to die. Killing wild creatures as they went, Scull's party made, in all, a summer cruise down the Yukon River, through Bering Strait to Herald Island and northeastern Siberia and by Bering Sea to the Alaska and Kenai peninsulas. There are 136 illustrations from photographs and 11 maps, which are excellent.

WILBUR GREELEY BURROUGHS.

**Das Nordland.** Von Carl Lausberg. xxiii and 603 pp. Map, ill., index. Klinkhardt & Biermann, Leipzig, 1913. Mk. 14. 10 x 6½.

The author describes a trip to Norway and Spitzbergen, illustrating the written word with many beautiful pictures and half-tones. Yet the book is more than a mere narrative of "voyage und travel." Not satisfied with merely seeing sights, the author had prepared himself for the trip by a thorough study of the geography and history of the countries to be visited, and he presents us with the results of these studies in a very readable form, such as the geological history of Scandinavia and of Spitzbergen, the Gulf Stream drift and its influence on the climate of northwestern Europe, the commerce and traffic, political constitution, education and religion of Norway, Norwegian language, literature, art, and music, a short history of Norway, observations and reflections on the character of the Norwegian and his ward, the Lap—in short, the book contains about everything which the prospective tourist ought to know about the country which he intends to visit; and it has the merit of presenting the subject in such an attractive way that it cannot fail to please also the reader who takes it up for its own sake.

M. K. GENTHE.

**My Life with the Eskimo.** By V. Stefánsson. ix and 538 pp. Maps, ill., index. The Macmillan Co., New York, 1913. \$4. 9 x 6.

"Uninhabited" was written in red letters across the face of the map of Victoria Island by the Canadian Government in 1906. Whether this assertion was true or false was to be proved within the next few years by Vilhjalmur Stefánsson.

While still north of the Arctic Circle in 1906-1907, on his first expedition, Mr. Stefánsson was formulating plans for a second expedition. On returning to the United States, he laid these plans before the American Museum of Natural History. The idea was, to quote the author, that "it seemed possible that there might exist on the north shore of America, and possibly on Banks Island and Victoria Island, people who had not seen a white man, either they or their ancestors; and there, almost certainly, were other people who themselves had not seen white men, although the ancestors of some of them might have been explorers of Franklin's own party or else men of the Franklin Search."

Mr. Stefánsson proposed to prove the existence or non-existence of such a people by thorough exploration. The Museum authorities were interested, but funds were not available to buy a ship and the customary outfit of Arctic exploration. This, however, did not deter Stefánsson. He writes:

"Our thesis was this; that we were not looking for any waste places, but for land occupied by human beings; if those human beings were there at all, they must be Eskimo supporting themselves by the most primitive implements of the chase; and if Eskimo could live there, armed as they must be with bows and arrows, and not only live but bring up their children and take care of their aged, then surely we, armed with modern rifles, would be able to live in that sort of country as long as we pleased and to go about in it as we liked."